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FOREIGN MINISTERS ARRIVE FOR GROUP OF 77 MEETING

Nicaragua's D'Escoto

PA042009 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Today, in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Foreign Minister Father Miguel d'Escoto Brockman denied that there is civil war in Nicaragua and charged that the United States has supported the invasion of the Somozist beasts.

D'Escoto arrived in Buenos Aires this morning as head of the Nicaraguan delegation in the ministerial meeting of the Group of 77. He accused Honduras of lending its territory as a base for the invasion and affirmed that if the Honduran Government and armed forces do not change their attitude, an armed clash between the two countries will become a reality.

The Nicaraguan foreign minister stressed that nevertheless, diplomatic efforts are underway to prevent a clash.

Honduras' Paz Barnica

PY050222 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2120 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 4 Apr (NA) -- Honduran Foreign Minister Edgardo Paz Barnica said today that he had no official reports on the alleged presence of Argentine military advisers among the former Somoza guards who invaded Nicaragua in late March.

Foreign magazines report that Argentina might have provided military training to the rebels in Honduran territory.

Upon arriving in this city, where he will attend the fifth ministerial meeting of the Group of 77 to be held between tomorrow and Saturday, Paz Barnica said: "We have the political determination to tirelessly strive for peace in Central America." He added that his country's intention is "to prevent any military clash, which both our countries and our peoples condemn." "[Words indistinct] carry out by the five Central American countries, without exception, on order to achieve a lasting peace in the region."

Paz Barnica, who arrived here this morning to attend the Group of 77 meeting scheduled to begin tomorrow, talked to reporters at Ezeiza Airport. He said that Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto traveled on the same flight. Paz Barnica said that he and D'Escoto have been friends "for many years."

Paz Barnica concluded by saying that there are 25,000 Nicaraguan refugees in Honduras, but that only some 4,000 belong "to the nefarious National Guard of former dictator Anastasio Somoza."

Chile's Schweitzer

PY042058 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2000 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 4 Apr (TELAM) -- Chilean Foreign Minister Miguel Schweitzer arrived in Argentina this afternoon to participate in the Group of 77 meeting, which will take place in this capital. The Chilean foreign minister arrived at the Jorge Newbery Metropolitan Airport at 1645 local time and was welcomed by his Argentine counterpart, Juan Ramon Aguirre Lanari, and Chilean Ambassador in Argentina Onofre Jarpa Reyes.

Grants Interview

PY050232 Buenos Aires Argentina Televisora Color Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Text] Among the high-ranking personalities who were arriving today to participate in the Group of 77 meeting due to open tomorrow in Buenos Aires, our interest was drawn to the recently appointed Chilean foreign minister, Miguel Schweitzer. We asked him upon his arrival whether, taking advantage of his stay here in Buenos Aires, he would discuss the Beagle issue with Argentine Foreign Minister Aguirre Lanari.

[Begin recording] [Schweitzer] Certainly not at the UNCTAD meeting.

[Question] Of course not, but will you discuss it with your counterpart, Aguirre Lanari?

[Answer] Well, I expect to hold talks with the foreign minister to the extent permitted by his numerous activities.

[Question] What is your opinion of the status of his holiness the Pope's mediation?

[Answer] I believe that the status of this mediation speaks for itself. I feel that it has been revitalized and I also feel a great deal of optimism and confidence in the wisdom and the qualities of the Holy See [illegible] the August mediator. [end recording]

As you can see, the head of Chile's diplomacy expressed optimism in his remarks.

Paraguay's Nogues

PY050243 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1715 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 2 Apr (DYN) -- Paraguayan Foreign Minister Alberto Nogues stated today that Paraguay is "by no means" responsible for the dramatic flood situation in Argentina, which is said to have been caused by the Itaipu Dam. Nogues said that "The consequences of the reservoir were foreseen in the studies carried out before the reservoir was built."

Nogues made statements to journalists after arriving at Ezeiza Airport today to participate in the Group of 77 meeting to be held in Buenos Aires.

Argentina Foreign Minister Juan Ramon Aguirre Lanari, who met the Paraguayan foreign minister at the airport, reiterated that the Argentine Government "will not sponsor any declaration on the Malvinas issue during the meeting." However, he did not dismiss the possibility that the issue might come up during the meeting.

As for bilateral relations, the Paraguayan foreign minister said that they are "normal" in spite of the fact that "there are difficulties every now and then. I believe," he said, "that two neighboring countries can sometimes have different views on a certain issue, but our relations are normal and I am always optimistic about them."

Asked about the disagreement between the two countries regarding the Yacyreta binational dam and about the statements made by Peronist technical experts to the effect that the Peronist Party would investigate the issue if it came to power, Nogues stated that "We cannot make any statements as far as the future Argentine policy on this issue is concerned."

Nogues stated that the Paraguayan Government does not feel "at all" responsible for the dramatic flood situation in the northern part of Argentina. Nogues made this statement upon being reminded of the opinion of many specialists and personalities, including Admiral Isaac Rojas, to the effect that the Brazilian-Paraguayan dam considerably aggravated the problem.

"I understand that the specialists took care of this and that the possible consequences were foreseen," Nogues stated. As for the problem with the two irrigation canals built by Argentina along the Pilcomayo River and which were closed following a protest made by Paraguay, Nogues said that "the setback has fortunately been overcome to our satisfaction."

On his part, asked about the anniversary of the events of 2 April 1982, Aguirre Lanari stated that "On this day we should honor the memory of our dead who shed their blood there and to express our recognition for those who returned, leaving behind a part of their lives and the great sacrifice made to defend national honor."

Aguirre Lanari also expressed "Argentina's recognition for the Latin American brothers who fought along with us and expressed their support for our national cause, which we will never abandon."

Asked whether Argentina expected to obtain the same support at the meeting it obtained for the Malvinas issue during the recent meeting in New Delhi, Aguirre Lanari said that "we will not sponsor any political project because we are the hosts." "Argentina's recognition of the support given to it by the majority of the developing nations has already been expressed, and it might be expressed again. However, we will not sponsor any declaration because the Group of 77 usually discusses technical and economic subjects. This is what it was created for." Aguirre Lanari said that "the meeting is not designed to discuss political issues, so I clearly and emphatically reassert what I said before."

Brazil's Guerreiro

PY0501S3 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1945 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 4 Apr (TELAM) -- Brazilian Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro dismissed here today the possibility that the Group of 77 meeting might decide to create an association of debtor countries. He stated, however, that the meeting migh draw up a joint program on this subject. Saraiva Guerreiro also asserted that Brazil will not serve as a regular base to supply or support any British operation involving the Malvinas Islands.

Saraiva Guerreiro made these statements at Ezeiza International Airport, where he arrived from Brazil at noon today to participate in the Group of 77 preparatory meeting that will be held in Buenos Aires. He said that developing countries are essentially debtor countries, noting that each country is faced with different specific problems.

Saraiva Guerreiro, who was met by Argentine Foreign Minister Juan Ramon Aguirre Lanari, asserted that Brazil will not serve as a regular base to supply or support any British operation involving the Malvinas Islands. Upon denying that Great Britain has applied pressure on Brazil, Saraiva Guerreiro said that normal diplomatic talks were held on this issue.

On his part, Foreign Minister Aguirre Lanari stated today in connection with the subject of Argentine sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands that Argentina will continue to struggle as much as possible. He said that the struggle should not and will not wane. I am certain, Aguirre Lanari added, that the next government will not stop the struggle either, because this is not a struggle by a government, but by a people who have deep nationalistic feelings. We are struggling mainly because it is our duty and also because we know that our cause is just and that our struggle will be successful.

Asked about British views to the effect that the British position regarding the Malvinas Islands might change by 1991, Aguirre Lanari said that speaking of the issue in terms of 8 years is meaningless. I know what they mean, they are tying the issue to the Antarctic treaty, but what will happen after 8 years, and why couldn't the position change before 8 years?

We must go on with our struggle and even try to win over the British public. The present British Government might be decided [to keep the islands], but the British people, who have to pay high taxes to keep troops on the islands, to pay for the construction going on there and to pay for populating the islands in that very peculiar way -- there are more soldiers than kelpers there -- might wonder in the long run whether it is worth supporting an unjust cause that defies the demands of the international community in support of Argentina.

Asked whether he believed that Argentina could win over the British public, Aguirre Lanari stated: I believe we can and we should strive for it. The first thing we should do to attain this is to give proof of the unity of the Argentine people regarding the Malvinas issue.

Asked whether the Foreign Ministry is in contact with the political parties regarding the conflict, Aguirre Lanari stated that there is continuing contact but the contacts are informal, adding that the Foreign Ministry is always ready to listen to the politicians' views.

As for the statements made by his Brazilian counterpart to the effect that Brazil will not serve as a regular base to supply or support any British operation involving the Malvinas Islands, Aguirre Lanari said that Saraiva Guerreiro's statements are proof of the positive friendship between the two countries; the Brazilian people are our friends and our brothers.

In conclusion, as far as Argentina's position regarding Central America is concerned, Aguirre Lanari stated that we maintain a traditional policy based on nonintervention, negotiated solutions, fraternity and American unity.

Afghanistan's Dost

PY042107 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1634 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 4 Apr (DYN) -- Afghan Foreign Minister Shah Mohammad Dost has acknowledged that "there are still some terrorists sent in from abroad" in his country, but added that the virtual civil war being waged in Afghanistan is moving toward a government victory over the rebels. Shah Mohammad Dost made this statement today upon his arrival at Ezeiza International Airport to participate in the Group of 77 meeting. The minister emphasized that the situation in his country "is becoming normal because the people have understood the significance of the revolution, and even though there are still some rebel groups sponsored from abroad, they are being gradually eradicated."

The Afghan foreign minister said: "My country is getting ready to commemorate the coming fifth anniversary of the revolution (27 April)" and stressed that "the economy is operating smoothly as indicated by the trade balance."

Mohammad Dost concluded by stating that "my government believes that the meeting of the Group of 77 is very important because it is the most suitable organization for Third World countries to seek a higher level of economic intergration."

Iranian Delegation

LD040959 Tehran IRNA in English 0904 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, April 4 IRNA -- Iranian delegation, led by Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Ahmad 'Azizi, arrived here to attend the ministerial session of Group of 77. Iranian envoy along with Argentinian ministers of economy and foreign affairs welcomed the delegation. A number of Muslims and Iranians residing here were also present at the airport to receive the Iranian officials. The ministerial session of Group 77 is due to start on Tuesday.

Confers With Cuban Official

LD051034 Tehran IRNA in English 0906 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, April 5 IRNA -- Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Ahmad 'Azizi currently here to attend the conference of Group 77 met and conferred with his Cuban counterpart and also commerce minister of Cuba. Matters of mutual interests were discussed at the meetings.

Concerning the probable proposal of Iraq to be the host of next meeting of the Group 77, Cuban deputy foreign minister said that such a move was not expected to be brought up at the present meeting.

India's Rao

PY041940 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] The Indian external affairs minister arrived in Argentina today. The foreign visitor noted that the nonaligned meeting held in New Delhi was very positive for all member nations of this movement. He also said that that meeting had had a favorable impact on international relations in general.

Upon his arrival in Buenos Aires, where he will join the ministers of the Group of 77 which is meeting in Buenos Aires, Narasimha Rao noted that above all he is quite satisfied over the relations maintained by countries having similar economic and political positions.

He said that the meeting held in India last March was very important for the holding of the present meeting of the Group of 77 in Buenos Aires. As for the Belgrade meeting which is scheduled for June, the Indian external affairs minister said that he hopes it will help to achieve progress, particularly regarding the most important and difficult economic problems affecting countries.

Regarding the first anniversary of the recovery of the Malvinas Islands, he noted that India upholds the same position as that of the Nonaligned Movement that is, the Malvinas Islands are part of Argentine territory.

External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao was welcomed at the airport by the Foreign Ministry under secretary and other high-ranking Foreign Ministry officials. At the Ezeiza International Airport he was welcomed by the national protocol chief and by the Indian ambassador, who were also at the Metropolitan Airport where the official welcoming ceremony took place.

Bignone Welcomes Ministers

PY050312 Buenos Aires Argentina Televisora Color Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Argentine President Reynaldo Bignone speech welcoming the Group of 77 ministers at the White Hall of Government House in Buenos Aires on 4 April -- recorded with simultaneous translation into English and French]

[Text] As president of Argentina, I am pleased to welcome you to our country, to welcome you to this city of Buenos Aires.

We find ourselves here, in this city of Buenos Aires, more than 100 nations with their geographical, social, ethnic and religious differences. However, we are here precisely to overcome differences, seeking unity.

This Argentine nation which is welcoming you today wishes to convey its message of unity to this group of countries, a task for which it is backed by a long-standing tradition.

Many of you whow know something about Argentina, who have done research on Argentina, may have first come to know of it as the land of the gauchos. The gaucho, the man of the plains, who roams the pampas, stands for friendship. To say gaucho in Argentina is to describe a person prepared to give everything he has to his fellow man, to help his fellow man, to understand his fellow man.

This is the message which we must draw out of this meeting in Buenos Aires for the meeting in Belgrade.

FOREIGN MINISTER ON FALKLANDS ANNIVERSARY

PY041859 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 3 Apr 83 pp 2, 3

[Text] Argentine Foreign Minister Juan Aguirre Lanari has said that "2 April should not be considered a day of defeat; on the contrary, we should be proud of it since in so doing we shall be honoring those who gave their lives and shed their blood."

In a statement he made to a radio station, Aguirre Lanari noted that "[We should always honor] those who died, those who were wounded and those who courageously fought to defend Argentine sovereignty, which we shall never give up concerning those undredeemed islands."

As for future diplomatic activities, he said that he and those who succeeded him "will have to work tirelessly so that we can assert Argentina's sovereign rights over the Malvinas with all the means at our disposal." He added that "This is a difficult task which, like all those that are carried out in the diplomatic fields, demands much faith, perseverance, decision, and taking advantage of any opportunity to reassert at the international level, and even within Great Britain, that Argentina will never give up its claim."

Asked about the impact of the nonaligned meeting held in New Delhi, India, he said that "That was a highly positive step because we were able to achieve the most categorical declaration regarding our sovereign rights over the Malvinas Islands, and also a declaration condemning the British attitude for maintaining a military stronghold and for introducing nuclear arms in the dispute."

He also noted that Great Britain is systematically refusing to comply with the UN resolution that invites Argentina and Great Britain to hold direct negotiations on the soverignty of the Malvinas Islands. He said: "Undoubtedly, in so doing Great Britain does not stand in a good light within the international community because it is repudiating [a UN resolution] by using childish and inconsistent reasons just as it has been doing the last few decades."

Regarding the authorization granted by Great Britain to the relatives of those Argentine soldiers who died on the Malvinas to visit their graves, Aguirre Lanari said that "These negotiations were not carried out by the Foreign Ministry. They were carried out through the International Red Cross by the interested parties." Moreover, he added that there is no official information in this regard.

About U.S.-Argentine relations, he noted that "They are following their normal course -- I have always refused to assess U.S.-Argentine relations. Argentina wishes to maintain good relations with all countries of the world." Regarding the compatibility of the institutionalization process with the present international policy drafted by the government, the foreign minister noted that the government's "following of this guideline was a condition I established for entering the Cabinet. This is a guideline that is in keeping with our interests at both the national and international levels."

Costa Mendez on Anniversary

PY04193! Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1505 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 4 Apr (TELAM) -- Nicanor Costa Mendez, the former Argentine foreign minister during the conflict with Great Britain, said today that during the war his work was limited to advising the government. However, this does not mean that I did not have ample freedom in this task, he said.

In a statement he made to Radio Mitre, the former foreign minister discussed his activities as head of the Foreign Ministry during the period that Argentina was at war with Great Britain over the possession of the Malvinas Islands.

Regarding his involvement in the proposals made at the time by the then U.S. secretary of state, Alexander Haig, Costa Mendez said: It was not in my competence to decide whether to accept or refuse those proposals. I was simply to analyze them and issue my opinion on the matter.

He noted that the proposal submitted by Haig on 27 April was unacceptable because it made the definitive status of the islands subject to the wishes of its inhabitants.

He noted that this meant that we were granting Great Britain the opportunity of making their presence on the islands legitimate by allowing them to use a document that allowed them to ask the inhabitants who were put on the islands by Great Britain whether they would like to be British dependents or not.

The former minister then explained that the decision to occupy the islands was taken a few days before the event took place and that it was unavoidable. He added that the action had two purposes: to prevent the final stagnation of negotiations and to bring about immediate negotiations -- and withdraw the troops from the islands in order to allow such negotiations.

Costa Mendez then stated that he considered Latin America part of the Western bloc, as is Europe, and pointed out: I went to Cuba because that is where an international meeting, which the government to which I belonged considered indispensable for the Argentine republic, was being held. He pointed out: I did not go to Cuba because of ideological reasons, and he recalled the case of former U.S. President Richard Nixon who was the right wing's main supporter in Vietnam, and during the war in Korea [as received] he went to the PRC to embrace Mao.

After pointing out that that action revealed a coincidence of political interests in favor of peace rather than opportunism, he pointed out that there is a great coincidence between my point of view and that of the Justicialist and Radical parties over foreign policy.

Ceremony Marks Event

PY041354 [Editorial Report] Buenos Aires Domestic Service and Domestic Television Service in Spanish begin coverage at 1302 GMT of a ceremony in progress in front of the Stella Maris Church in Buenos Aires to mark the first anniversary of the landing of Argentine troops on the Falkland Islands. The announcer states that the three Argentine junta members are present -- Lt Gen Cristino Nicolaides, Adm Ruben Franco and Lt Gen Augusto Huges. President Maj Gen (Ret) Reynaldo Bignone is also present, he says. From 1302 to 1310 GMT, the announcer reports that a military parade is in progress and that Air Force jets are flying in formation overhead.

At 1317 GMT it is announced that military chaplain Msgr Jose Miguel Medina will conduct a field mass. Following a prayer, Msgr Medina begins speaking at 1328 GMT. In his homily, Msgr Jose Miguel Medina says Argentines should honor and respect the wounded and dead from the Falklands conflict, and says he hopes the current national problems will not cause the people to forget the battles that took place on the Falklands. Monsignor Medina says that "The only light is that of truth," and that "We will strive to seek truth. For this we need to make an objective evaluation, free of emotions and without taking advantage of defeat for personal benefit."

Among the lessons learned, which are also "our commitments," says Monsignor Medina, are that "well-being is the supreme objective of politics;" that "the fatherland, above all sectorial divisions, will be our main objective;" that the politicians should proceed from the idea that "substantial unity is based on respect for legitimate human differences;" and that "we will serve the political community in each and every one of our actions even if it means shedding our own blood." Monsignor Medina concludes his homily by stating that "Last 14 June, we suffered a defeat, but it was not a mortal one. Death always wins; it is definite. On that 14 June, we suffered a sort of transitory disease which could stimulate us to strengthen our efforts." He says Argentines should not be pessimistic, but continue to be hoepful. The field mass ends at 1359 GMT.

YUGOSLAVIA'S ZARKOVIC TO ARRIVE 13 APRIL

PY311531 Paris AFP in Spanish 2346 GMT 30 Mar 83

[By David Marquez Carrillo]

[Excerpts] La Paz, 30 Mar (AFP) -- Bolivia will confirm its Third World, nonaligned and neutral position toward both the United States and the USSR during the visit Vidoje Zarkovic, Yugoslav State Presidency member, will pay to Bolivia in mid-April.

The Yugoslav Embassy told AFP today that Zarkovic will visit La Paz from 13 to 16 April at the invitation of President Siles Zuazo. Miodrag Radovic, charge d'affaires of the Yugoslav Embassy, stated that while in Bolivia Zarkovic will discuss international problems and Yugoslav-Bolivian cooperation plans with President Siles.

Official sources said that President Siles Zuazo and Zarkovic might sign important agreements on economic cooperation. We are interested in implementing cooperation plans in various fields, Radovic said.

Zarkovic will visit tin mines in Oruro, 230 km south of La Paz, and will reportedly sign technical and financial agreements to implement mining plans in Bolivia.

CUBAN AIRPLANE TO DELIVER FOOD IN SANTA CRUZ

PY030142 Paris AFP in Spanish 0119 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] La Paz, 2 Apr (AFP) -- It has been officially announced that an airplane from the Cuban Air Force carrying food for flood victims will arrive in Santa Cruz (1,000 km east of here) next Monday.

The Santa Cruz Prefecture said that the Cuban mission will be headed by a high ranking spokesman of the Fidel Castro regime whose identity has not yet been revealed. This is the first Cuban mission of rapprochement arriving in the country since relations between Havana and La Paz were renewed last December after an 11 year lapse.

COMIBOL PROFESSIONALS START STRIKE 4 APRIL

PY041650 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Excerpts] All professionals working for Comibol [Mining Corporation of Bolivia] began an indefinite strike as of 0000 today, Monday, 4 April, demanding the implementation of salary increases which are provided for in agreements signed with the corporation.

In a communique issued by the Comibol professionals to the media, they state that they have been unjustly discriminated against since they are the only sector which has not received the seniority bonus which the remaining employees and workers of the corporation receive.

The three labor unions which are made up of engineers, technicians, physicians, dentists, chemists, economists, lawyers, etc., decided to start an indefinite general strike in view of the fact that the mining and metallurgy ministry has failed to implement the salary increase which is provided for in an agreement signed recently.

POLICE REPRESS DEMONSTRATIONS IN SAO PAULO

PY050345 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 0200 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Several incidents occurred in the Santo Amaro neighborhood in Sao Paulo this morning. The incidents, which Government House sources have regarded as quite serious, began when police dispersed a demonstration staged by unemployed persons.

Only late in the afternoon was it possible to know the balance of the incidents: 72 persons arrested, dozens of stores, 2 supermarkets and some drugstores assaulted and looted, cars smashed and 22 persons injured.

The military police riot squad intervened only some hours after the incidents began.

Police General Delegate (Mauricio Enrique Pereira) reports that everything started with a small group of chemical industry workers who were discussing unemployment. The group grew as other persons joined in, also protesting against unemployment. When some minors began throwing stones at stores it was no longer possible to control the people, who started stealing food and other products from supermarkets, stores and drugstores.

When a group of demonstrators learned that many persons had been arrested, they headed toward the 11th Police District to demand the release of the detainees.

Plainclothes policemen who were at the 11th District unsuccessfully sought to control the demonstrators. Police personnel shot several times into the air but many minors began throwing stones at the police building breaking windowpanes.

When the mob grew, soldiers of the military police riot squad arrived and dispersed demonstrators with sticks, noise bombs and tear gas.

Governor Franco Montor will answer the Santo Amaro demonstrations by announcing the first measures to fight unemployment tomorrow. Montoro deplored the incidents and remarked that problems must be analyzed calmly. He asked the people to keep cool in order to attain a just solution.

The Sao Paulo commercial association has issued an official note pointing to the atmosphere of concern and fear amid the people. Luis Eulalio de Bueno Vidigal, the president of CIESP [Sao Paulo State Industry Center] believes that it will be difficult to know to what extent the demonstrations were politically motivated.

The federal government kept a close watch on the demonstrations held against unemployment through the federal police, the SNI [National Intelligence Service] and the armed forces information agencies.

A high government source reported that up until this evening there were no indications that the demonstrations might have been coordinated, although the usual suspicious people have been quite busy in Sao Paulo.

Since the events were not so serious as to reach what the source called the alert level, the situation is still under the control of Governor Franco Montoro, and the federal government is not likely to intervene in the state.

The source recalled that the federal government has all legal and material resources needed to intervene in any state, provided the situation justifies such an intervention, in keeping with the recent presidential decree that amended the military police statute. The military police can be summoned by the army minister at any time.

LISBON'S ARMED FORCES CHIEF ARRIVES FOR VISIT

LD012149 Lisbon in Portuguese to Europe 1900 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Chief of the Armed Forces General Staff, General Melo Egidio, is visiting Brazil. Speaking on arrival, he stated that Portugal will not allow the deployment of nuclear weapons on its territory. He said that his visit is aimed at closer ties between the armed forces of the two countries and represents a preliminary stage for joint activities. He pointed out, however, that no military agreement is envisaged between the two countries.

GUYANA AMBASSADOR FOUND DEAD IN HIS RESIDENCE

PY010112 Paris AFP in Spanish 0013 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Text] Brasilia, 31 Mar (AFP) -- Guyana's Ambassador to Brazil Lionel David Samuels was found dead today in his residence, with a bullet in his head. Up to now, neither Itamaraty nor the Guyanese Embassy in Brasilia has issued a communique on this case.

The Guyanese diplomat lived in one of this capital's most luxurious neighborhoods, the Peninsula Sur. According to neighbors, at about 0500 (0800 GMT) today shots were heard from the ambassador's residence. Personnel of the Brazilian Technical Police have been to the diplomat's residence, but have not released any information as to whether the ambassador committed suicide or whether he was murdered. Ambassador Samuels had been serving in Brasilia since 1978.

LEGISLATORS INVITED TO VISIT ROMANIAN CONGRESS

PY050204 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 4 Apr 83

[From the "Congressional Report"]

[Text] Flavio Marcilio, the president of the Chamber of Deputies, this morning received an invitation from the president of the Romanian congress to send a delegation of Brazilian legislators to the Romanian National Assembly. The invitation, which was handed over by the Romanian charge d'affaires, was made taking into account the need to promote relations between the legislators of the two countries.

BRIEFS

SOYBEAN MEAL TO GDR -- Brazilian producers have managed to close a deal for the sale of 45,000 tons of soybean meal to the GDR at the Leipzig Spring Fair. The deal was closed through Petrobras International Trade, Inc. (Interbras) and amounts to $10 million It is to be delivered during April. [Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 20 20 Mar 83 p 39 PY]

NATION WILL ACCEPT UN MEDIATION ON GUYANA BORDER

PA030332 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0121 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] Caracas, 2 Apr (EFE) -- Venezuela is prepared to accept any solution chosen by the UN secretary general to solve the border dispute with Guyana or to deal with any unexpected event that might arise in this stage of the controversy, Foreign Minister Jose Alberto Zambrano said today.

The Venezuelan foreign minister added during a television program, "We are prepared for any contingency that might arise on the problem with Guyana." He summarized the history of the border dispute, emphasizing that Venezuela's policy has always been guided by the search for peaceful solutions. He described as positive Guyana's recent acceptance of Javier Perez de Cuellar's mediation to select a method to solve the dispute, based on Article 33 of the UN Charter.

Regarding Guyana's change of attitude, the foreign minister recalled Guyana's charges regarding the possibility of armed Venezuelan aggression. He pointed out that time has demonstrated that Venezuela is a country that respects international treaties.

Regarding presumed pressure from the Cuban Government against Guyana, the Venezuelan foreign minister said that he did not believe that this existed, although he considered it "perfectly possible that there may have been at some time a word of stimulation or encouragement for it to comply with the Geneva agreement."

CUBAN EXILE ON HUNGER STRIKE RUSHED TO HOSPITAL

PA042334 Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] The Cuban Orlando Bosch has been admitted to the military hospital. This was reported by Cuban exiles in Caracas.

Bosch has been on a hunger strike at the San Carlos garrison to protest the delay in his trial. He has been charged with masterminding the bombing of a Cubana Airlines plane in 1976, in which 73 passengers died.

The Cuban exiles said Bosch was rushed to the military hospital.

MEXICAN AMBASSADOR TALKS WITH EMBASSY OCCUPIERS

FL042320 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2159 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Mexico City, 4 Apr (NOTIMEX) -- Mexican Ambassador Jesus Puente Leiva is holding talks with seven members of the Front for the Liberation of Political Prisoners in Venezuela [Frente Pro-Liberacion de Presos Politicos en Venezuela] who have occupied the Mexican Embassy in Caracas since last Monday, it was announced here today.

Foreign Secretariat spokesmen indicated that the situation in the Mexican Embassy in Venezuela was at a standstill.

The spokesmen said that four women and three men from the Front for the Liberation of Political Prisoners in Venezuela had peacefully occupied the embassy last Monday to plead for some political detainees in that nation.

U.S. RESTRICTION ON IMPORTS DRAWS REACTION

PA032005 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] (Jacobo Sande Weber), president of the Mexican Confederation of Industrial Chambers, has described the decision to withdraw 55 Mexican products from the U.S. commercial preference system as a mistaken U.S. policy. He added that the measure will affect the backbone of the Mexican Government's economic policy, reducing the country's annual revenues by almost $2 billion.

Meanwhile, (Leopoldo Lara Salinas) president of the management organization in Nuevo Leon State, feels that the U.SL decision is in retaliation for Mexico's Central American policy. The local press attributes the lack of an official response to this U.S. decision to the fact that the Mexican secretary of commerce and industrial development is abroad.

DEFENSE SECRETARY REPORTS ON ANTIDRUG CAMPAIGN

FL042200 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2000 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Mexico City, 4 Apr (NOTIMEX) -- National Defense Secretary Juan Revalo Gardoqui today reported the results obtained in the standing antidrug campaign over the last 2 months to President Miguel de la Madrid.

The defense secretary met with the president at the National Palace and told him that in the last 2 months, the Mexican Army destroyed poppy and marijuana plantations sowed over 835 hectares of national territory.

He said that under the Condor, Canador and Puma [names as received] operations, the army had arrested 113 Mexican and 3 foreign drug traffickers from whom it had seized 1 kilo of poppy seeds, 6 tons of marijuana and 80 grams of poppy gum valued at about 38 million pesos (approximately $253,000). He said the army had also seized 16 vehicles, 150 firearms, 760 rounds of ammunition and some 3 million pesos (approximately $20,000) in cash. He also informed the chief executive of a fruit-tree reforestation plan implemented last February. Some 1,368 hectares of the country will be reforested through the plan.

HAVANA CITES INTERVIEW WITH FOREIGN SECRETARY

PA040438 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Mexican Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda said Sunday that Mexico will strive to have peace and security prevail in Central America. Sepulveda added during a televised interview that his country's foreign policy involves two important points: A struggle for peace in the area nearest Mexico, and authentic international economic justice. He added that the advent of an era of detente is indispensable to allow states to launch a drive to better distribute world resources instead of engaging in a race for power.

Sepulveda described the arms race as morally repugnant because it promotes the squandering of resources required for development to the detriment of societies lacking them. Sepulveda said that Mexico will act ethically and humanely toward the Guatemalan refugees who have arrived en masse in Mexico to escape from their country's regime. He said: Our Guatemalan brothers will return to their homeland after violence is eliminated.

GOVERNMENT CALLS REFERENDUM FOR 24 APRIL

PA022240 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 31 Mar 83

[Government Resolution No 38 of 30 March 1983 published in insert entitled "Draft Constitutional Reforms of the Republic of Panama; Authorized Edition"]

[Text] Resolution No 38 (of 30 March 1983)

"By which a summons is issued to a referendum on amendments to the Constitution of the Republic of Panama and other measures are dictated."

The Cabinet Council, considering that:

During a session held on 28 October 1982, the National Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives authorized the executive branch to proceed with the revision of the 1972 Constitution;

The executive branch, through Cabinet Resolution No 148 of 19 November 1982, appointed a commission so that after previous consultations with the various sectors which form the nation's life, it would make reforms to the present political Constitution;

The people are the source of public power and rector of national sovereignty, and only the people can decide on the proposed reforms;

The executive branch considers an ineludible duty to consult all citizens so that in a direct, free and spontaneous way, they may express their approval or disapproval of the constitutional reforms submitted by the commission for review of the political Constitution of the Republic of Panama.

Resolves:

Article 1. To call a referendum to be held on 24 April 1983 so that the citizenry, through free, universal, direct, equal and secret ballot, may approve or disapprove the reforms to the 1972 Constitution of the Republic of Panama to your excellency the president of the republic.

Article 2. To ask the Electoral Tribunal to organize, direct, oversee and regulate a people's referendum which should be held to approve or disapprove the constitutional reforms that will be submitted for the electorate's consideration.

The executive branch will appoint a liaison official with the Electoral Tribunal for the activities to be carried out during the entire process of the referendum.

Article 3. The executive branch will finance the expenses incurred by the Electoral Tribunal in holding the referendum. All state departments will place at the service of the Electoral Tribunal the material and human resources required anywhere in the country for the referendum.

Article 4. Once the result of the voting is known, the Electoral Tribunal will submit a report to the executive branch so that branch may take the necessary measures to comply with the will of the majority of citizens.

Article 5. Classes for the 1983 school year will begin Tuesday, 26 April. This measure will permit the use of public school buildings throughout the country as voting places and the participation of teachers in the referendum.

Article 6. The present Cabinet resolution is effective upon its publication.

Let this be issued and published:

Issued in Panama City on 30 March 1983.

Ricardo de la Espriella T.	president of the republic
Jorge Enrique Illuecz	vice president of the republic
Justo Fidel Palacios	government and justice minister
Juan Jose Amado III	foreign relations minister
Orville K. Gooding	finance and treasury minister
Mario de Diego Jr	commerce and industries minister
Susana R. de Torrijos	education minister
Frank Omar Perez	agricultural development minister
Hector I. Ortega G.	public works minister
Jose G. Montenegro	labor and social welfare minister
Gladys C. de Lam	acting health minister
Raul Rolando Rodriguez P.	housing minister
J. Menalco Solis R.	planning and economic policy minister
Gabriel Castro S.	minister of the presidency

PARTIES' STATEMENT ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

PA300450 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 29 Mar 83 pp A-1, A-10

[Text] Now that the work of the constitutional amendments commission has ended, the Nationalist Liberal Republican Movement (Molirena), the Christian Democratic Party, the Authentic Panamenist Party, the Liberal Party and the Popular Nationalist Party (PNP) have stated that "The date set for the constituent referendum must allow broad dissemination and discussion of the proposed constitutional amendments..."

The ideas expressed by the political parties are included in the communique published below:

The undersigned national political parties publicly express the following facts:

1. The work of the Constitutional Amendments Commission on which we were duly represented has ended.

2. The results of the work done by the commission contribute to the struggle to achieve the objectives we had set as the goal in this stage of our efforts the democratization of the country.

3. The appropriate organizations of each of our political parties will hold internal consultations with rank and file members to discuss the text of the constitutional amendments and the new constitutional texts that will be submitted to a constituent referendum.

4. Our representatives on the Constitutional Amendments Commission will sign the final report and attend the ceremony to deliver the report to the president, as authorized by each party.

5. We request that the date set for the constituent referendum allow a broad dissemination and discussion of the proposed constitutional amendments. We recommend that this be a 2-month deadline, starting from the date the constitutional amendments are published.

6. We report deplorable and unnecessary external interference during the final moments of the amendments commission's work, thus motivating the adoption of a inappropriate constitutional text concerning the appointment of a legislative organ.

7. We reject any attempt to interrupt the course of the constitutional amendments that we have reviewed, or the 1984 general elections. Any initiative in this area is contrary to the best national interests and contrary to the search for a peaceful and democratic solution to the problems that afflict all Panamanians.

8. We have offered our efforts and dedication to the search for democratic formulas that will lead our homeland through paths of peace and development with social justice. All the citizens will judge our disinterest, in favor of the interests of our homeland, as well as the conduct of public officials who are responsible for our national destiny.

9. We will opportunely point out to the nation the positive aspects that support the constitutional amendments, which are to a great extent the result of sustained efforts by the commission members who represented the opposition.

[Dated] Panama City, 28 March 1983

[Signed] Nationalist Liberal Republican Movement, Christian Democratic Party, Authentic Panamenist Party, Liberal Party, Popular Nationalist Party (PNP) Dr Bolivar Pedreschi supports this resolution in his role as independent commission member.

NORIEGA ON GUARD'S ROLE, SCHOOL OF AMERICAS

PA011356 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 31 Mar 83

[Interview with Col Manuel Antonio Noriega, chief of General Staff of the National Guard of Panama; no date or place given -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] Colonel Noriega, in connection with the constitutional reforms and the democratization that begins with this new period, what will the role of the National Guard be in this process?

[Answer] The National Guard has a permanent role: to safeguard and defend the nation's citizens and territory.

[Question] Regarding the National Guard structure, in the event that General Paredes runs for president, how would the National Guard be structured?

[Answer] I could not answer that question, but I can tell you that the National Guard has a roster-type structure and organization and this takes into consideration retirements, transfers, punishment and promotions. All this confirms the National Guard's evolution.

[Question] What can you say regarding the reform of Article 2, which eliminates the reference to the National Guard?

[Answer] As commander in chief, General Paredes has said that we belong in the entire Constitution, and therefore we are in every article. Even if we were not, the National Guard's popular essence would make it obligatory for us to be in every article since we are the soul of the national defense.

[Question] What do you think of the latest Central American events, especially those taking place between Nicaragua and Honduras, which are exchanging accusations?

[Answer] This is an important subject and has to be considered with great responsibility. We Panamanians must be careful with it. Our most important wish is that there be no definite confrontation, since we are part of this geopolitical area and anything that happens in the area would have repercussions in our country.

[Question] Colonel Noriega, there are still doubts about how the U.S. -Panamanian governments' agreement on the implementation of the Panama Canal defense is working out. How are the agreements being implemented?

[Answer] All agreements have phases. We are in the revolutionary phase of coordination. This is occurring through the Panama Canal Commission and the Defense and Security Commission, which is headed by Lt Col Bernardo Barrera.

[Question] There has been talk about the School of the Americas training Central American personnel. We know about it and you, as a key person in the National Guard, are very much concerned with the Central American situation and especially with the canal's defense. What does the National Guard think about this training?

[Answer] We are studying the situation. I can tell you, however, that the School of the Americas is going ahead with its education programs and there is nothing abnormal in the School of the Americas as far as the student body is concerned.

GOVERNMENT TO ASSUME CONTROL OF AIRSPACE

PA010457 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1715 GMT 31 Mar 83

[Station interview with Civil Aeronautics Deputy Director Diego Hurtado; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Excerpt] [Question] Mr Diego Hurtado, one of the provisions of the Torrijos-Carter treaties is the complete transfer of U.S. control over federal aviation facilities to the Panamanian Civil Aeronautics Department. How has this been carried out?

[Answer] Those provisions have been carried out successfully, and we feel that both the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration and the Civil Aeronautics Department of Panama have fulfilled their parts of the treaties in a positive way, both parties taking into consideration each other's problems. On 22 April, we will sign the transfer documents and Panama will assume control of the airspace and related services.

[Question] It is common knowledge that the Panamanian Government was seeking the possibility that this department could be operated and administered entirely by Panamanians, with a training program for Panamanians. Can you give us details about this training program and the progressive occupation of positions by Panamanians?

[Answer] On 22 April, after signing the agreements, only the U.S. supervisors will be left. Presently, all control of air traffic and maintenance of the system is in Panamanian hands.

BELIZE

GOVERNMENT ESTABLISHES RELATIONS WITH INDIA

FL041650 Bridgetown CANA in English 1530 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Belmopan, Belize, April 2 [as received], CANA -- Belize has formally established diplomatic relations with India, the government has announced. India's non-resident high commissioner to Belize, Mr David Christopher Manners, this week presented his credentials to Governor General Dr Minita Gordon.

Mr Manners, who lives in Jamaica, said his appointment will lead to closer co-operation between the two countries.

COSTA RICA

DELEGATION HOLDS BORDER TALKS WITH NICARAGUA

PA050302 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Report by William Cespedes]

[Text] Here are the details of the meeting between Costa Rican and Nicaraguan ministers held in San Juan del Sur [Nicaragua]. The meeting lasted 3 hours. We gave you an advance report during the afternoon from the northern border after Foreign Minister Fernando Volio Jimenez, Government Minister Alfonso Carlos Zuniga and Public Security Minister Angel Edmundo Solano held a news conference on Costa Rican territory.

The only agreement reached was to reactivate the mixed commission. The commission will be reinforced by the deputy ministers of public security, government and foreign affairs. The mixed commission has been convoked to meet on 20 April in Managua, and it will continue to meet every month.

In spite of the fact that the meeting was cordial, no major agreements were reached and Foreign Minister Volio Jimenez reaffirmed that relations between the two countries remain tense, because on the principal point for Costa Rica -- which is the free and perpetual navigation of the San Juan River without Nicaraguan controls -- no progress was made because the Sandinist government insists that it owns the San Juan River and, although it recognizes the right to free navigation by Costa Rica, it will continue to exercise controls.

The Costa Rican delegation presented three basic documents. One of them was on the progress in the placing of border markers along the border between the two countries, which has been intensified over a distance of 131 km. This will continue with one marker every 5 km with a metallic marker in between to make the border between the two countries easily identifiable.

The Costa Rican Government reaffirmed its position on the need for controls to prevent armed incursions by Nicaraguan patrols. Interior Minister Tomas Borge said that if such incursions have occurred, they have been involuntary because the Sandinist government has a political disposition to maintain respect for the integrity and sovereignty of Costa Rica.

On the results of the talks, Foreign Minister Volio said that Nicaragua had presented a proposal for a mixed legal commission to study the San Juan River problems.

Costa Rica rejected this because this would amount to recognizing the complete right of Nicaragua to exercise controls over the river. Here are some remarks by Foreign Minister Fernando Volio Jimenez on the results of the meeting.

[Begin Volio recording in progress]... Discuss the right that Costa Rica has, but to ask for an end to the exercise of controls and other measures against Costa Rica's right. Therefore, on this point there was no agreement whatsoever. They maintain their opinion that they have the right to exercise controls, and we maintain the free right or the opinion that [words indistinct] [end recording]

The Costa Rican Government, represented by three cabinet ministers, insisted on Costa Rica's right to perpetual and free navigation on the San Juan River. The three cabinet ministers agreed that the only progress made was the reopening of a dialogue with Nicaragua.

Nicaraguan Interior Minister Commander Thomas Borge said:

[Begin recording] We also examined the situation on the San Juan River. We must find ways to give continuity in the future to the different viewpoints of our countries on some problems posed regarding the San Juan River. In this respect, new meetings will be held, and there will be a general examination of the situation.

The mixed commission met to study the operational feasibility of marking the border, on which there is also absolute agreement between our two countries. Specific tasks are already being implemented on the marking of the border.

The Costa Rican delegation presided over by the illustrious Foreign Minister Fernando Volio brought up some irregularities that have occurred on the border in connection with the incursions by our military forces into Costa Rican territory. We mutually agree that the political desire exists on the part of the Nicaragua Government not to violate Costa Rica's sovereignty. A mixed commission had been established to exercise control in this respect, and it was agreed to reactivate this mixed commission and on our part to exercise better and permanent mechanisms to control our forces. [end recording]

That was Nicaraguan Interior Minister Borge on the results of the meeting, which was reported as having yielded very few positive results because the only tangible agreement reached was that of reactivating the mixed commission that was installed in San Jose on 7 June 1982. The commission has not met for 8 months due to the problems that have arisen between the two nations.

The deadlock continues on the basic point raised by Costa Rica, that is, free and perpetual navigation of the San Juan River. This means that relations between the two countries remain virtually stalemated even though this first contact has opened an avenue to dialogue to seek solutions to the conflicts that have arisen since May 1982, when President Monge assumed power.

However, the government and public security ministers feel that there is a possibility of reaching new agreements with the Nicaraguan Government, which has proposed here that a friendship and nonaggression treaty be signed. Costa Rica did not even discuss the proposal, because it said that the treaty was not necessary since it has never had an aggressive attitude toward Nicaragua. These are the results of the meeting. Next week, when the commission will meet again, progress is expected to be made on the placing of border markers and the establishment of border checkpoints, which should ease the strain in relations between the two countries.

REAGAN SHOWS INTEREST IN COMMUNICATIONS PROJECT

PA041945 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text San Jose -- Without stating the purpose, which is obvious, U.S. President Ronald Reagan has sent a letter to Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge expressing his deep interest in the projected installation of several powerful radio stations in various locations bordering on Nicaragua.

I think we should start sending technical equipment to Costa Rica to make sure that the basic needs for this program are covered, Reagan points out in his letter to Monge.

There are plans to install radio stations in locations and towns in areas which include San Carlos, Sarapiqui, and Tortugero, Guanacaste, bordering Nicaragua.

The real purpose of the project is evidently not explained in detail, but obviously one can conclude that it is part of imperialist intervention plans against the Nicaraguan revolutionary government and of the gradual invasion already in progress against the Sandinist peoples revolution.

PAPER URGES 'BRAVERY' IN HANDLING FINANCES

PA032340 San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 28 Mar 83 p 14A

[Editorial]

[Text] Finance Minister Federico Bargas disclosed Friday that Costa Rica is on the verge of violating the stabilization agreement approved by the IMF. The violation would consist of failing to reduce budgeted expenses by 17.7 percent, which would not only increase this year's expenses but the fiscal deficit contemplated under the same program.

The minister's assertion is a serious matter, particularly because the IMF's quarterly review of the agreement is approaching.

If the IMF mission confirms that our government has broken its promise, confidence in the program and our economy's prospects would be ruined. It would be more difficult to renegotiate the foreign debt and Costa Ricans who have debts payable in foreign exchange would find it harder to renegotiate them, avoid bankruptcy and forge ahead with their business. Costa Rica cannot afford the folly of violating the agreement with the IMF. It has already done so twice and the results have been disastrous.

Aside from the possible violation of the agreement, we agree with the finance minister in that the fiscal situation is very dim. Expenses can exceed real income any time and ruin the progress that has been made through the efforts of the last few months to curb inflation and to stabilize the exchange rate. Minister Bargas knows this very well and has clearly explained the situation. We have supported his efforts and the country recognizes what he has done. However, it seems that the deputies of the National Liberation Party and some officials, including Labor Minister Guillermo Sandoval, are not clearly aware of the precariousness of the financial situation and are proposing additional projects and programs even though the country does not have the means to finance them.

We support the finance minister's efforts to keep a large percentage of the income from the sales tax from being earmarked for specific expenses under the family subsidy program, but disagree with his request that corporate taxes be increased by 10 percent.

The production sector cannot withstand further burdens and restrictions. The budget must be balanced by reducing public spending. The minister has recanted on his promises of the last few months by proposing an increase in taxes instead of a reduction of expenses. We hope that he will think it over and take steps to keep expenses down. We know it is difficult but the effectiveness of a minister is measured by the bravery with which he tackles the problem of reducing expenditures.

PAPER CONSIDERS SAN JUAN CANAL PROJECT BY SOVIETS

PA031930 San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 26 Mar 83 p 14A

["Good Morning" column by J.A. Sanchez Alonso; "It Would Be Just Too Much"]

[Text] We must not be pessimistic and accept as fact the possibility presented at the meeting of former Costa Rican foreign ministers, that the Sandinist regime is considering granting the Soviet Union rights to build an interoceanic canal using the San Juan River. This would show far too much submission to Moscow and insult the treaty on free navigation rights on this river. It would also defy the limits of tolerance.

Although anything can be expected from the dogmatism and submission of the nine commanders' regime, the truth is that they can't be so silly. Ignoring this aspect, it will be interesting to see the reaction from local Marxist sectors and smart ecologists. The former are very particular about national security and the latter about environmental conservation. I can just see the roundtables, forums and symposiums staged by the usual eminent individuals, telling us about the consequences to us all if Soviet destroyers and nuclear frigates -- not to mention surfaced submarines showing support for the regime that hijacked a revolution -- were to transit the calm San Juan waters.

The meeting that our security and foreign policy authorities will hold with their Nicaraguan counterparts in early April, will be an opportunity to -- among many other things -- persuade our neighbors not to proceed with this type of provocation. The USSR has completed a strategic arc which starts in Cuba and extends to tiny Grenada, with Nicaragua as the turnbuckle. To believe that Washington would tolerate the strangling of its defensive perimeter with a Soviet interoceanic canal, would be equivalent to comparing the Pentagon with a Boys Scouts school. Now, if what the nine commanders are seeking is an invasion of "Marines," they can go ahead with their canal plans, on the assumption that these plans really exist.

EL SALVADOR

DEFENSE MINISTER TAKES LEGAL ACTION AGAINST UPI

PA042048 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 30 Mar 83 p 7

[Text] Defense Minister Gen Jose Guillermo Garcia last night announced after meeting for an hour with U.S. Congressman Fowler, Democrat from Georgia, that he has filed legal action against the international news agency UPI and its correspondent for sending biased, false and outrageous reports.

Garcia said that he personally has given instructions to the Defense Ministry legal department to take legal action against UPI and the correspondent or correspondents responsible for the misinformation regarding alleged dismissal of Col Adolfo O. Blandon, commander of the Army's 1st Infantry Brigade, and Col Juan Rafael Bustillo, commander of the Salvadoran Air Force.

General Garcia denied everything the international news agency reported, adding that similar rumors have been circulating for about a week.

"With regard to this report, I feel that once and for all we must put an end to the malevolence of these news agencies and their correspondents, who use the international news media to knock down the country's prestige with outrageous misinformation. I have ordered that legal action be taken so that they are more careful in selecting their correspondents," Garcia indicated.

In relation to his meeting with Fowler, Garcia said that he analyzed the country's economic and military situation, "making it clear to him that this is not Vietnam and that human rights are respected."

GUERRILLAS OCCUPY FOUR TOWNSHIPS, KILL 17

PA050428 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0252 GMT 5 Apr 83

[By Roberto Block]

[Text] San Salvador, 4 Apr (LATIN-REUTER) -- Salvadoran leftwing guerrillas briefly occupied four townships today in the eastern province of San Vicente, killing 17 persons, including a mayor, local officials have reported. The insurgents stormed the townships of Guadalupe, Verapaz, San Lorenzo and San Cayetano and fled before the Army reinforcements arrived, the officials added.

Verapaz township suffered the fiercest attack by the rebel troops, who took the municipality early today. Township officials said the guerrillas killed 11 civilian militiamen and a soldier of the 5th Army Brigade based there.

In Guadalupe, the guerrillas killed four civilian militiamen, wounded two and blew up a local militia post. All the townships attacked are near the provincial capital of San Vicente.

The rebels attacked the township of San Cayetano Istepeque and dragged Mayor Eleazar Cruz, 55, from his home up to the municipality building, where they shot and killed him.

VENEZUELAN INTERFERENCE IN PDC AFFAIRS CHARGED

PA041215 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Christian Democrats have denounced pressure from Venezuelan politicians. According to information given to this newscast, it has finally been confirmed, instead of being just a well-known secret, that two ranking Venezuelan political figures, including President Luis Herrera Campins himself, are among those interfering in the internal affairs of the Salvadorans who head the Christian Democratic Party [PDC].

PDC members say that President Luis Herrera Campins is pressuring Foreign Minister Fidel Chavez Mena to yield the presidential nomination to engineer Jose Napoleon Duarte.

Meanwhile, Aristides Calvani, president of the Christian Democratic Organization of the Americas, ODCA, is pressuring Engineer Duarte to yield the nomination to Chavez Mena, and told Duarte that each man has a time and a place.

The PDC members who gave us this report would like to ask their leaders to halt this interference by the Venezuelan Government and politicians in El Salvador, more than anything else to regain the dignity which the political parties need so desperately -- dignity lost long ago in El Salvador.

'PRODUCTIVE SECTOR' CRITICIZES U.S. CONGRESSMEN

PA040441 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] The productive sector has protested the actions of U.S. senators. The information obtained by this station reveals that sectors linked to private enterprise have expressed indignation over the recent visits by a group of U.S. Congressmen and Senators who, with complete impunity, even went so far as to question our national political system and other government measures, while the government has not said a word in protest.

In the productive sector's opinion, the most lamentable thing abut the whole affair is that it has been announced that the U.S. attorney general is going to arrive in the next few days to familiarize himself with the Salvadoran legal system. According to information obtained by the private sector's spokesman, the purpose of this visit would also be to question, compare and try to adapt the Salvadoran juridical system to the interests of U.S. political sectors.

The productive sector asks the government to be a bit more careful with the visits of these officials who are sometimes trying to get into the international limelight or to improve their image in the United States by means of special press campaigns, as a means to climb the political ladder in that northern nation.

HAVANA: FMLN'S SHAFICK HANDAL REJECTS ELECTIONS

PA031420 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] The danger or regionalizing the Central American conflict will be intensified as long as the United States insists on militarily defeating the Salvadoran guerrillas, Shafick Jorge Handal, secretary general of the Communist Party of El Salvador, has noted. Handal, who is also a member of the FMLN command, said that the rebels will not participate in the electoral process currently being prepared by the regime because it is only a maneuver designed to stop the Salvadoran Army's physical and moral deterioration.

Handal stressed that the United States is willing to intervene directly in El Salvador, but in order to do this, it needs a legitimized government that can request U.S. aid to prevent the guerrilla victory.

According to Handal, whose statements were released in San Jose, Costa Rica, the Reagan administration is providing the Salvadoran regime with 500-lb bombs and rapid-fire machineguns. It is also preparing the army for a chemical and bacteriological warfare.

Meanwhile, the rebel station Radio Venceremos, the voice of the Salvadoran insurgents, reported in a recent war bulletin that the Salvadoran Army sustained 84 casualties during clashes with the guerrilla forces, only 20 km from San Francisco Gotera, the departmental capital of Morazan.

HAVANA ON BELLOSO BATTALION'S DEFEAT, MORALE

PA032045 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] The severe defeat that the Salvadoran guerrillas inflicted on the Army's Ramon Belloso Battalion might increase the discrepancies and demoralization among the Salvadoran regime's high military command, political observers have said.

The Ramon Belloso Battalion was trained by U.S. advisers and is equipped with the most modern military technology. Last Wednesday the battalion suffered one of its worst defeats in Morazan Department, where it was attacked by FMLN members. The regime's forces suffered 67 dead and 46 wounded.

Several Central American news media think that a new internal crisis is very likely to erupt due to discrepancies over the manner in which the current defense minister, Gen Jose Guillermo Garcia, is conducting the war. To this problem one must add the tension created by last Wednesday's resignation of Finance Minister Jorge Tenorio. His resignation comes at a time when the regime faces a difficult economic situation.

GUATEMALA

CRITICISM OF REGIME'S 'POLITICAL OPENING' CITED

PA042005 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Commentary by Felix Loarca Guzman, director of "The Independent" newscast: "Reactions of the Political Parties to the So-Called Political Opening"]

[Text] Gen Efrain Rios Montt's government recently announced the beginning of a so-called political opening on the first anniversary of the military coup that overthrew the Lucas Garcia brothers' regime. The announcement has led to varied reactions from the representatives of the various parties or groups that want to become political parties.

The reactions that have drawn the most attention are probably those of the leaders of the National Liberation Movement, MLN, headed by Mario Sandoval Alarcon, who maintains a clearly anticommunist stand. The MLN leaders do not believe in the so-called political opening proposed by the current government because none of the promulgated laws specify terms or dates for the installation of a constituent assembly that could truly be a firm step towards prompt return to a constitutional legal framework. According to the MLN leaders, the promulgated laws establish procedures that only seek to delay the elections and therefore, the de facto government will be able to continue in power for an unspecified period.

The leaders of the Christian Democratic Party headed by Secretary General Vinicio Cerezo Arevalo have also expressed their deep doubts about the famous political opening that the government is trying to promote. They have insisted that the country needs to return to a legal system soon.

We think the views of the political party leaders are worth deep and broad analysis in view of their significance for the future of this country, which has traditionally been ruled on the basis of repression and violence. Everyone is aware of the importance of the views expressed by the representatives of political groups to the point that the past year has been 365 days of waiting for justice and that it has been a period of illegality in which efforts have been made to legislate and to judge with laws and courts of very strange and doubtful legal bases. This has also been extensively pointed out by the legal congress that was recently held in the country with the participation of many lawyers.

The truth is that national problems continue to worsen with demagogic solutions that unfortunately have created unemployment, a crisis in agriculture and what is worse, a deep insecurity and lack of credibility -- in addition to neglect of the country's international image, which is increasingly deteriorating. The people are facing an uncertain future. Good intentions may exist, but they are not enough. Guatemalans desire not only a political opening but also peace, education, health, clothing, housing and more important, a little justice and a little food to fill empty stomachs.

THREE KILLED IN REBEL ATTACK IN HUEHUETENANGO

PA042007 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Two members of civil defense patrols and a guerrilla were killed in the region of Chiantla, Huehuetenango Department. According to an official report confirmed by the Army public relations office, the action occurred when several subversives tried to seize the village of Mixlaj, in Chiantla. The civil defense patrol members who died in this action were identified as (Victor Manuel Herrera) and (Sinforoso Galicia), who were in charge of protecting the area. A subversive identified as Commander (Marcos) was also killed in this action. He was armed with a 7.62-mm M-14 rifle, 135 cartridges of the same caliber and a grenade.

HONDURAS

HAVANA REPORTS ON TRAINING OF SOMOZIST GROUPS

PA030023 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Text] The Columbia Broadcasting System, a U.S. television network, has disseminated their film of military exercises in a Honduran training camp. The exercises were staged by a counterrevolutionary group made up mostly of former Somozist guards.

The television station pointed out that the group has plentiful and modern arms in a place located only about 10 km from Nicaraguan territory. The station added that this is only one of many contingents being trained in Honduras to attack Nicaragua.

The station reported that the training camp in the film is under the direction of Edgar Chamorro, member of the self-styled Nicaraguan Democratic Force. Chamorro has reportedly delcared that his goal is to depose the Sandinist government in July.

According to other reports from Managua, some 40 counterrevolutionaries were wounded when forces of the Nicaraguan Interior Ministry and the Air Force attacked a band of former Somozist guards in Bocay River area.

In the presence of 100 foreign reporters, Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto asserted that the United States is waging a war against Nicaragua that is no less a war for not having been officially declared. D'Escoto has said that the Nicaraguan people seek the most extensive solidarity because the current situation is much more serious than when the foreign ministers of the nonaligned countries met in Managua last January.

NICARAGUA

HAVANA REPORTS HUMBERTO ORTEGA NEWS CONFERENCE

PA030017 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Text] Nicaraguan Defense Minister Commander Humberto Ortega has disclosed in Managua that contingents of former Somozist guards tried to penetrate Nicaraguan territory through the departments of Zelaya, Madriz and Chinandega and returned to their bases in Honduras after being repelled by the Sandinist Peoples Army.

In a statement to more than 100 foreign journalists in Managua, Ortega pointed out that these forces intended to penetrate Nicaraguan territory in an effort to save from defeat the former Somozist guards who have been operating in the Departments of Nueva Segovia, Jinotega and Matagalpa since February.

Ortega added that the most recent clashes took place near the Honduran border. He added there is danger of a large-scale confrontation between troops of the two countries.

Humberto Ortega charged that the counterrevolutionaries who tried to infiltrate the country relied on the open coordination and support from Honduran soldiers, who even raid Nicaraguan territory and harass Nicaraguan border towns and posts with heavy weapons.

The Nicaraguan defense minister reiterated that the U.S. Government is responsible for the escalation of the interventionist aggression.

BORGE SAYS 'HONDURAN ARMY' KILLED NICARAGUANS

PA041406 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] The revolutionary government paid posthumous homage to heroic fighters (Victor Robleto), (Felipe Castrellon) and (Mario Aguirre) of the Pablo Ubeda unit, who were killed while fighting on 28 March at the Bocay River outlet. The three were posthumously promoted to second lieutenant.

Commander of the Revolution and Interior Minister Tomas Borge Martinez presided over the ceremony at Sandinist police headquarters. Borge said that their death was not in vain, as the fruits of their generous blood are and will always be present in the minds and actions of the FSLN combatants, and their example opens the path where new men will tread. He added that their example, as that of the Sandinist revolution, opens the doors for the liberation of oppressed peoples, as the revolution is the path and lamp for Latin America revolutionary movements.

The Honduran Army killed the three Interior Ministry combatants with artillery fire from the other side of the border, said Commander of the Revolution Tomas Borge Martinez. The attack took place a little after the Sandinist air force and the Peoples Sandinist Army, EPS, destroyed installations used by counterrevolutionary forces to receive airborne logistical support in Nicaraguan territory near the northern border.

The revolutionary leader admitted the possibility that a large movement of Honduran battalions toward the western, Pacific, border is aimed at forcing a similar movement by the EPS, which would leave other border points without the necessary vigilance. The revolutionary government is ready to reject these maneuvers, said the interior minister, without having to reduce pressure or protection at any point. We have enough military and human resources to defend all these zones, he emphasized.

FOREIGN MINISTRY ON DESIRE FOR PEACE TALKS

PA050512 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0318 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Communique issued by the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry on 4 April in Managua -- read by announcer]

[Text] Whereas, Nicaragua called an urgent meeting of the UN Security Council to report to the international community on the aggression to which our country is being subjected by the United States, using Honduras as a base to perpetrate its aggression through the gangs of former Somozist guards:

Whereas, the great majority of the countries that participated in the debates agreed that the aggression against Nicaragua and the direct or overt intervention in its internal affairs constitutes a violation of the principles set forth in the UN Charter and represents a danger for international peace and security;

Whereas, a general appeal for a negotiated solution of the conflicts with full Latin American participation [as heard];

Whereas, the military exercises underway in Choluteca, Honduras, on the border with Nicaragua in no way contribute to a lessening of the already difficult situation in the area;

Therefore, the Nicaraguan Government:

Announces that we reaffirm our appeal for dialogue at the highest level with the U.S. Government as well as the Honduran Government.

In line with the full acceptance of the principle of peaceful solution of conflicts through negotiations, Nicaragua appeals to the countries that met on Contadora Island, that is, Mexico, Panama and Colombia, so that they will, in the spirit of their peace initiative, use their good offices to promote bilateral talks between the United States and Nicaragua and between Honduras and Nicaragua.

Advises that Victor Hugo Tinoco, deputy foreign minister and Nicaraguan representative at the Security Council, has formally advised the members of the Security Council of Nicaragua's desire to negotiate in a letter addressed to the Security Council chairman, in which we also expressed Nicaragua's consent for the UN secretary general, pursuant to the suggestions made by members and nonmenbers of the Security Council, to contribute to the cessation of the aggression against Nicaragua and the easing of tension in the area by promoting mechanisms of dialogue and the peaceful solution of controversies.

FOREIGN MINISTRY ON BORDER POST HARASSMENT

PA050434 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0318 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Press communique issued by the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry on 4 April]

[Text] Another counterrevolutionary attack was perpetrated yesterday at 1520 from Honduras against border positions of the Sandinist Peoples Army. The incident occurred at the Nicaraguan observation post of (La Fortaleza), 100 meters north of San Pedro de Potrero Grande, Chinangega Department.

On this occasion, the former Somozist guards stationed in (La Confluencia), Honduras, harassed the border guard post for 20 minutes with 60-mm mortars, .50-caliber machineguns and rifle fire.

FOUR 'COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES' ARRESTED 1 APR

PA041521 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] Four counterrevolutionaries were arrested, several were wounded and many weapons were recovered in a clash Friday, 1 April, in the (Guazala) region. This was reported by Deputy Commander Javier Lopez, Interior Ministry delegate in the 6th region, during the ceremony praising the heroism of La Pavona militiamen, which was held in Yali on Saturday, 2 April.

After describing the latest vandalic acts perpetrated by the counterrevolutionary bands, Deputy Commander Lopez asked the townspeople to use every means available to defend their gains, achieved through the Sandinist revolution. In the final analysis, we may have to be like (Andres Castro).

There are many stones here, he said, and added: [Begin recording] We are hitting them hard, and in the rainy season, they will know what's good for them, if you know what I mean. They will not only have to fight our people, they will also have to fight nature, mosquitoes and constant rain. Rifles rust and there is no oil to clean them. We will find out how high their morale is. The Sandinist front managed to stay in the mountains for years, and you know that -- military men like Commanders (Cabezas), (Pomares); some of you met (Tello), (Francisco Hernandez) -- and you know that our fighters morale was high. We will now see if they are also capable of enduring nature's hazards. [end recording]

TOMAS BORGE HOLDS NEWS CONFERENCE AT TALKS

PA050456 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0254 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Statement by Interior Minister Tomas Borge Martinez during news conference with local, Costa Rican and other foreign newsmen following talks with a Costa Rican delegation led by Foreign Minister Fernando Volio Jimenez in San Juan del Sur, on the border between Nicaragua and Costa Rica -- live or recorded]

[Excerpts] What, in our opinion, is the most serious threat that exists in Central America? I believe that the most serious threat is the threat of a military intervention by the United States, which is a serious meance to the independence and sovereignty of the Central American countries and even a threat to world peace and security.

This danger of aggression is not something that we mention capriciously, but rather it corresponds to objective causes, in addition to the fact that high-ranking U.S. Government officials, including President Reagan, have made statements in which they claim the quote, right, unquote, to intervene in the internal affairs of the Central American countries, particularly in Nicaragua and in the civil war that is being waged in El Salvador, as well as make constant threats against Nicaragua's territorial integrity. In all these cases, the U.S. officials have reiterated their willingness to use any method to achieve their objectives, including the use of force and military support for the bands of former Somozist guardsmen and the use of covert resources by the CIA.

All this leads us to suppose that the U.S. Administration -- which, moreover, ignores the changes that have taken place in the world, while trying to disregard the laws of historical development -- is trying to (?revive) the gunboat diplomacy of the past. In the past, this gunboat diplomacy has come up against the Nicaraguan's readiness to fight with weapons in hand against U.S. intervention. That is the same readiness that characterizes us now.

Moreover, on the isthmus itself, the U.S. Government is disregarding broad international opposition to its aggressive policy, an opposition that has been expressed all over the world -- by governments, institutions, personalities from all over the world and from the most varied ideological persuasions. This has been disregarded by the U.S. Administration, just as it has disregarded the growing concern expressed by various Latin American governments.

However, the North Americans have not stopped at threatening to attack us. They have already attacked us. It is in no way surprising, as we said recently, that they should try to create in Nicaragua a situation of apparent civil war, as is happening in El Salvador, and set the bases for a regional discussion in the area (?from) positions of strength, as we said on another occasion.

This situation in El Salvador is very sensitive. A civil war is underway there that has endangered, seriously endangered, even the present Salvadoran Government.

Consequently, it cannot be ruled out that this entire effort that is underway in Nicaragua may be designed to create a military situation in order to give the people the illogical, absurd impression of a civil war in Nicaragua in order to pave the way for negotiations in Central America from positions of strength in this area. The Reagan administration denies the possibility of negotiation with the revolutionary forces of El Salvador and increases the arms buildup and escalates the acquisition of weapons in the area, providing a greater number of U.S. advisers and large amounts of military materiel to the armies of El Salvador and Honduras while at the same time providing weapons to the Somozist counterrevolutionary forces that are attacking Nicaragua from Honduran territory.

What then, is the path that the U.S. Government has chosen? Has it chosen the path of negotiations? Has it chosen the path of discussing the differences that exist between our peoples or between Nicaragua and the U.S. Government? No! The path that the U.S. Government has chosen in order to solve problems is the path of military force.

In this context of creating an impression of a civil war in Nicaragua, news dispatches from this country have stated -- and this has been repeated by international news agencies, and reproduced in many countires; I understand that this is also the case in Costa Rica -- that areas in the center of Nicaragua have been occupied; Matagalpa, Matiguas, San Dionisio, Esquipulas and other areas.

Incidentally, a group of foreign newsmen visited all these areas, where it has been proved -- with these newsmen as witnesses -- that none of these towns has been occupied at any time by the counterrevolutionary forces. In this phase, there is an organization made up of former national guardsmen called the Nicaraguan Democratic Force [FDN]. It has a political directorate and a military directorate. Its operational forces and its general staff plan to attack on two fronts; one in the direction of Jalapa, which I suppose is more or less well known to the newsmen, and the other on the Atlantic coast, in the area that we call northern Zelaya.

At the same time, they have sought to infiltrate troops deep into the nation's territory, that is, into the center of the country. This has been partially achieved. [words indistinct]

In every case, these forces have come from Honduras. On three occasions, we have [words indistinct] as if to demonstrate that nothing has entered here other than from Honduras; men, weapons, techniques. These weapons and that technique come from the United States. I believe that no one has any doubts about this, because where else would they come from? I am sure that they do not come from Costa Rica, those forces that have penetrated up to Jalapa and Wiwili and the forces that have penetrated the northern part of Nicaragua. It would be absurd and stupid to think that they came from Costa Rica.

The fact that the enemy plans to use Costa Rica without the knowledge of the Costa Rican Government is something else. But those who have entered Nicaragua have come from Honduras. All this has been financed by the U.S. Government. If not, where did the bazookas, the mortar, the cannon, the rifles come from? Are they produced, by chance, like coffee, in the Nicaraguan mountains? I know of no one who plants a seed that produces cannons, bazookas, rocket launchers and sophisticated weapons. They have to come from abroad. Where do they come from? From the place where they were made. Whatever it may have said at the beginning, the U.S. Government has publicly expressed its intention to overthrow the Sandinist revolution. And it is precisely in implementation of this political determination of the United States that these men and those weapons have been infiltrated from abroad.

This is, in general terms, the situation in Nicaragua. The forces that have infiltrated into the center of the country -- which have not occupied any towns and which are at this time being surrounded and confronted in battle by our forces, which are placing them in a very difficult position, in a phase of not a strategic but rather a tactical offensive -- the forces of Quilali and Wiwili, closer to the border, have also been neutralized.

But the U.S. Government's general plans include the infiltration of forces through northern Zelaya for the purpose of feeling out the terrain. They attack and retreat; they have been hit and have retreated to Honduran territory. They are concentrating efforts to carry out increased attacks in northern Zelaya.

The territory occupied by the Miskito population -- a part of it, that is, because there have been claims that the entire Miskito population has joined the counterrevolutionary forces, and that is false; only a few sectors of that population have joined the counterrevolutionary activity. [sentence as heard] In order to neutralize this activity, we have relocated those Miskitos who voluntarily wanted to move to other areas, far from the sectors where the counterrevolutionaries are operating, where they are exposed to being used as cannon fodder or being murdered by the counterrevolutionary bands.

The number of Miskitos already relocated is nearly 6,000. At this moment, there are approximately 10,000 persons already relocated [as heard]. As a result of all the propaganda and confusion sowed in the Miskito areas, there are about 10,000 Miskitos in Honduras, including adults and children.

[Question] Commander Borge, you have been invited to visit various U.S. institutions and universities. Have you accepted these invitations?

[Answer] Yes, I was invited by Harvard and Johns Hopkins Universities, and our national leadership accepted the invitations extended by these two famous universities of the United States.

When we informed U.S. Ambassador Quainton about these invitations, he told us he was going to consult his government; and a few days later he called the Foreign Ministry and me to tell us that the U.S. Government had decided that I could not enter the United States, thus violating all international principles, because a minister of a country that has normal diplomatic relations with another government -- in this case, the United States -- is banned from entering that country.

[Question] When did he call you?

[Answer] Approximately 10 days ago. Therefore, the U.S. Government, according to Ambassador Quainton, told us about a State Department decision that for the time being I could not enter the United States. For the time being, in other words, I am denied entry to the United States. As far as we are concerned, any North American can come to Nicaragua, and we will not ban them from entering as long as they comply with our immigration laws. In fact, even if the secretary of state or President Reagan himself wanted to come to Nicaragua, we would not be afraid to receive him or any other official from that country.

[Question] What is preventing a Honduran-Nicaraguan dialogue?

[Answer] That is a decision that must be made by the Honduran Government, because as far as we are concerned we have insisted on many occasions on the need for bilateral negotiations with the Honduran Government at any level, to find a joint solution to the problems between Nicaragua and Honduras. The Honduran Government, however, has systematically refused such negotiations.

HAVANA CITES NEWSWEEK ON U.S. INVOLVEMENT

PA041840 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] The U.S. weekly NEWSWEEK reports that the $19 million allocated to the CIA for use against Nicaragua have been exhausted and that an additional $11 million from a secret fund will now be used. The magazine added that although the CIA insists that the mission of the counterrevolutionaries in Nicaragua is to block the alleged supply of weapons to the Salvadoran guerrillas, several U.S. legislators believe that the real intention has always been to destroy the Sandinist government.

NEWSWEEK emphasized that its special correspondent, James Lemoyne, was able to confirm that the former Somozist guardsmen who have been infiltrated to Nicaragua were trained in Honduras by CIA advisers. Lemoyne cites sources of the Honduran military and the self-styled Nicaraguan Democratic Force which state that Washington continues to back the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries with advice and weapons.

HEALTH COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH GDR

FL011905 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Text] A cooperation agreement which provides for the exchange of scientific literature, medical assistance and scholarships has been signed between the public health ministries of Cuba and the GDR. The agreement, which will be in effect until 1985, was signed by Dr Abelardo Ramirez, Cuban vice minister of public health, and Dr Rudolf Mueller, GDR deputy minister of health [names and titles as heard].

After the signing ceremony, Dr Ramirez stressed that the agreement was of extraordinary importance in the context of the magnificent and close relations existing between the two countries, and praised the GDR's excellent response to Cuban needs.

COOPERATION TALKS WITH ROMANIA OPEN 5 APRIL

FL050050 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Text] The first session of the joint Romanian-Cuban group for economic and scientific-technical cooperation in the fields of agriculture, food and fishing industries opened today in Bucharest. Carlos Perez, Cuban vice minister of agriculture, heads our country's delegation to the meeting.

CEMA SCIENTIFIC COORDINATION MEETING CLOSES

FL021245 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] The eighth scientific coordination meeting of CEMA countries has come to a close in Havana with the approval and signing of a protocol covering the results of the sessions. The meeting dealt with the compound problem, organ and tissue transplants and related immunology.

The third session of the Council of the International System for Cooperation in the Area of Kidney Transplants was also held in conjunction with this meeting.

At the closing session, Soviet Professor (Prokhovmolev), general coordinator of the compound problem, thanked Cuban health officials for their support of the forum, then praised the high level [of expertise] attained by socialist countries in the field of transplants and said the results of the meeting will contribute to the improvement of future work in these areas.

LEZCANO DELIVERS AID FOR BOLIVIAN FLOOD VICTIMS

FL042005 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1904 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] A shipment of medicine and food for the nearly 50,000 victims of recent floods in Bolivia arrived this morning in Santa Cruz from our country. The Cuban donation was sent directly to (El Trompillo) Airport in that eastern Bolivian city on a Cuban airlines commercial flight which arrived shortly before 1000 local time.

Jorge Lezcano, vice president of Cuba's National Assembly of the People's Government, heads the high-level delegation which arrived in Santa Cruz and delivered the Cuban donation to Bolivian authorities. Upon its arrival on Bolivian soil, the Cuban delegation was welcomed by Minister of Social Services and Public Health Torres Goitia, departmental officials and representatives from the armed forces and other Bolivian organizations.

INTERNATIONAL LABOR DAY TO BE CELEBRATED

PA032246 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] International Labor Day will be celebrated in Cuba on 1 May with numerous activities which will culminate in a huge parade at the Plaza de la Revolucion in Havana. Some 800,000 workers will participate in the parade. Similar parades will simultaneously be held in the other Cuban provinces.

The Havana parade will be led by various leaders of the revolution, the labor movement and of the political and mass organisations. After them, 2,000 canecutters from the most outstanding canecutting brigades will follow.

The canecutters will be followed by the capital's population. Contingents representing the territorial militias, the cadets and the western army will end the parade.

The Committee for the Defense of the Revolution have decorated the cities for this important celebration which will begin in Cuba on 22 April with an event on Lenin Hill in the Ultramarina neighborhood of Regla.

STATION COMMENTARY ATTACKS U.S. POLICY IN C.A.

FL041935 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 4 Apr 83

["Revolutionary Armed Forces and Interior Ministry Combatants Political Information" program commentary]

[Excerpts] Washington's course and objectives in Latin America are the same today as those set nearly a century ago and so masterly foreseen and denounced by our Jose Marti: to become wealthy through the merciless exploitation of Latin America's immense resources.

We might ask: What is the United States looking for in Nicaragua today? Just about any observer might say that it is [looking for] a strong and convincing example for the rest of Central America. But at the same time, it is very uncomfortable for the White House because it accelerates the end of imperialist hegemony in its own backyard.

Many political figures believe that the aggression recently unleashed against Nicaragua, encouraged and directed by the Reagan administration through Honduras, could reach unanticipated proportions. We can see once agin how the Washington administration tries to internationalize another center of tension and threaten peace by involving its satellite dictatorships in the region so as not to be solely responsible for that criminal action. From this conflict, they intend to infer the need to form new imperialist military alliances to try to crush governments and peoples who defend their right to be free.

But in Nicaragua today, the enemy of all peoples will be confronted by a Latin American attitude which, after the Malvinas conflict just a year ago, is very different and more in line with the attitudes of Marti and Bolivar.

GRENADA

BISHOP DISCUSSES ROLE OF PRESS, OTHER TOPICS

FL041615 Bridgetown CANA in English 0004 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, April 3, CANA -- Grenada has nearly 50 political detainees -- some in jail since a March 1979 leftist coup -- against whom charges are yet to be brought by the People's Revolutionary Government (PRG), Prime Minister Maurice Bishop has said. The PRG was hoping to bring the group before the courts "as quickly as possible," Mr Bishop told the EXPRESS newspaper.

During a wide-ranging interview, Mr Bishop also said the PRG was thinking about setting up a commission comprising Caribbean law experts to help it come up with a replacement for a Grenada Constitution he described as "a farce."

He also said he would not allow the Grenadian private sector to set up radio and television stations in Grenada, but the PRG was still to "work out" a policy regarding publication of newspapers.

On the number of detainees in his country Mr Bishop said: "At this time, in terms of people who are not yet charged, but either are about to be charged or the evidence is still being collected, the number is probably four or five people (at the Richmond Hill Prison) at this time who were picked up since March 13, 1979," Mr Bishop remarked. One was a former superintendent of prisons, who was said to have made a court appearance last year. "The other ones -- charges have either been brought (against them), or the witnesses proofs and all that are being finalised with a view to bringing charges," Mr Bishop reported.

The Grenada Government faced "a lot of problems" in getting legal personnel for handling the cases "due to the fact that...in the private sector lawyers earn a very good living."

"...putting together all the necessary witnesses' proofs, framing the indictments, getting the necessary expert witnesses has in fact turned out to be a very difficult process for us...," Mr Bishop explained. "But at this present time there are only four or five left from March 13 and the plan is to get them before the courts as quickly as possible."

Mr Bishop, whose New Jewel Movement (NJM) toppled the right-wing administration of former Prime Minister Sireric Gairy, said no member of the former political directorate was now in jail.

Mr Bishop told the EXPRESS his government wanted to draw up a new constitution, "because we believe that the present Constitution is a farce." Such a constitution would include "the right to work and other rights that people see as important from day to day," Mr Bishop said. "...the Constitution has this nice chapter-one 'Fundamental Rights and Freedoms,' but when one of your rights has been violated and you go before the court all you can get is a declaration of your rights having been violated," Mr Bishop said. "You can't levy against the crown. We think that is nonsense."

The Grenadian leader said his government was considering appointing "a constitutional commission made up of experts in constitutional matters from the region," and had spoken to some of the experts, including two Trinidadians. "This commission will go around in the usual way looking at constitutions, will come up with a draft that they feel is suitable to the circumstances" which would be discussed by the population and sent back to the commission for refinement. A referendum or plebiscite would be held on the final draft, Mr Bishop said.

On the news media, the Grenadian leader remarked: "There are areas of the media that as far as we are concerned will never get opened up and will be reserved exclusively for the state and para-statal bodies: radio and television stations, for example. "These are only going to be for the state and para-statal bodies. We are not going to allow any private sector involvement. In terms of newspapers, a policy is still being worked out finally on that question.

"But basically, the main guideline there is the democratisation law we had passed several years ago dealing with the question of newspapers...which said that no newspaper company will be allowed to own more than four percent of the shares in any newspaper company. In other words, there must be at least 25 different people or companies involved in a newspaper. We think that is very important, because to us the media cannot be seen as just another business. We don't accept that the media is saltfish or flour or clothing, to be just sold over a counter. We think that the media has specific objectives that go beyond, that are really a pact of the national interest in much the same way as the public utilities for example."

Mr Bishop added: "To us the media is supposed to help to educate our people, to deal in facts, is supposed to give interpretations that are consistent with the facts. We don't believe in sensational journalism or journalism that is allowed to distort reality for the sake of spreading minority positions."

The PRG and the NJM control the news media there. One independent newspaper, THE TORCHLIGHT, was shut down by the PRG after it published a series of reports critical of the government. The PRG has forbidden the publication of newspapers, while it draws up a media code.

New Investment Code

FL050000 Bridgetown CANA in English 1847 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, April 4, CANA -- Under a new investment code drawn up by Grenada, the private sector will be unable to invest in utilities, radio and television stations, infrastructural facilities, national airlines, telecommunications and trading in certain strategic and basic commodities, Grenada Prime Minister Maurice Bishop has said. In an interview with the EXPRESS newspaper, Mr Bishop said these sectors were reserved for the state and parastatal bodies.

The leftist Grenada Government has said that the investment code, proclaimed as law on March 2, is geared to make the local private sector move away from what it refers to as invoice form technology into direct production. "The fact is that the private sector in Grenada, like the private sector in many places throughout the Caribbean, has really developed historically on an invoice mentality.

"I mean, their approach is to import goods, put a mark up on that and you break off the profit on the top," Mr Bishop said. "In other words, on that basis the country will never achieve industrialisation, will never achieve economic diversification, or any development," the prime minister said.

The Grenadian leader said that under the codes heading "areas of investment reserved for the state and para-statal bodies" were "things like public utilities, radio and television stations, infrastructural facilities, national airlines, telecommunications and trading in certain strategic and basic commodities."

Bishop's New Jewel Movement (NJM) came to power in March 1979 in a coup which ousted the Eric Gairy regime.

Mr Bishop emphasized that there were areas of the media which would never be opened up to private interest.

"Well... I can just tell you that there are areas of the media that as far as we are concerned will never get opened up and will be reserved exclusively for the state and para-statal bodies. "Radio and television stations, for example. These are only going to be for the state and para-statal bodies. We are not going to allow any private sector involvement.

"In terms of newspapers, a policy is still being worked out finally on the question, but basically the main guidelines there is the democratisation law we had passed several years ago dealing with the question of newspapers, where as you probably remember which said that no one newspaper company will be allowed to own more than four percent of the shares in any newspaper company," Mr Bishop stated.

Mr Bishop said the investment code also included a clause which restricted the growth of the private sector in Grenada. "We've also put into this investment code another heading which we call 'Areas of Restricted Further Growth for the Private Sector.'" That is, they are there right now, but we don't want them to expand any further. That is banking, insurance, fishing, artisanal fishing, internal public transportation and importing and wholesaling," Bishop said. "Now in the area of wholesaling, we will allow people who are already into the importing and wholesaling area to expand, but we don't particularly want a whole new bunch of (buyers) coming into that area again," he said.

MEASURES OF SUPPORT FOR PRIVATE SECTOR

FL041425 Bridgetown CANA in English 1758 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, April 3, CANA -- Private sector officials here have told the Grenada Government that one of the major problems facing them is that of mobilising the necessary finances to move into direct production in manufacturing and tourism expansion. This was disclosed by Bernard Coard, the deputy prime minister and minister of finance, trade and planning in the People's Revolutionary Government (PRG). Mr Coard said the problem was raised at recent meetings between the Grenada Government, the Employers' Federation, the Grenada Hotels Association and the Chamber of Industry and Commerce as part of the discussions of the national budget and plan for 1983.

Declaring that the problem was also plaguing the state sector, Mr Coard said the government had observed that despite these difficulties the private sector was still managing to get involved in the area of tourism expansion and manufacturing.

The private sector was getting involved in this area, he said, because there were twice as many loans granted to these business people in 1982 by the state-owned Grenada Development Bank (GDB) as in the previous year. "This is a sign that in fact there is a sector of our private sector that is not engaged in talking a lot of rubbish, but instead is engaged in real serious production," he remarked. "There is that section, and that section is growing because more andmore people are getting into direct production."

Mr Coard suggested that the problem of getting the required funds could partly be solved by the tax concessions the government was offering in its investment code, and the stepped-up loans being offered by the GDB. It could also be eased somewhat if the private sector, with the assistance of government, tapped more effectively loans from the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) for expansion in the areas of tourism and industrial development, he added.

CUBAN ASSISTANCE SOUGHT FOR FISHING INDUSTRY

FL041355 Bridgetown CANA in English 1740 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, April 3, CANA -- The Grenada Government is working on an overall plan to develop the country's ailing fishing industry, Minister of Industrial Development Kendrick Radix has announced. Mr Radix said the People's Revolutionary Government (PRG) had requested on-going technical assistance for the island's fishing industry from Cuba.

He disclosed that a term of Cuban fisheries officials would be visiting St Georges this year to carry out a study of Grenada's fisheries resources and the potential for its development. The minister also stated that a five-man team from the Caribbean Food Corporation (CFC) had arrived here to conduct a survey of the island's fisheries resources. This survey, he said, would focus on the infrastructure to support the sector, as well as the processing of fish, technological application and marketing.

The Grenada Government, in a report which was recently presented here, said that the state-run national fishing company had made only 172,000 (EC) dollars (1 EC dollar= 37 cents U.S.) out of the projected 947,000 (EC) dollars for last year. The report said that seven of the eight boats in the fishing fleet have not been functioning properly. Six boats were sunk by the Grenadian authorities after their engines were removed, officials here said.

JAMAICA

CONCERN AT ALLEGED PLANS TO INVADE GRENADA

FL041730 Bridgetown CANA in English 1705 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, April 4, CANA -- Jamaica would be "extremely concerned" if its nationals were involved in any scheme that would threaten the security of another state, a Foreign Ministry spokesman here said today.

"It is not something that the government would be likely to ignore," he told CANA in response to a statement by a Grenadian official that Jamaica gunmen had been offered money to join a mercenary force to topple the St Georges regime of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop.

The spokesman said that he was unaware of any official complaint by the Grenadian Government and that he could not say whether St Georges had been in direct contact with the political leadership here. He knew, however, that Jamaica, like other Caribbean Community (CARICOM) members, had received a copy of a note sent by St Georges to the U.S. State Department in response to U.S. President Ronald Reagan's recent assertions that Grenada posed a threat to regional security.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman said that Jamaica could not react with an official comment on its nationals being involved in a mercenary force or take action, unless it had a complaint or some evidence to this effect.

Don Rojas, the press secretary to Prime Minister Bishop, said in Barbados at the weekend that the leftwing St Georges regime had "concrete evidence" of a planned invasion that apart from the Jamaicans would involve Grenadian "counterrevolutionaries," Miami-based Cubans and former Nicaraguan guardsmen. Grenada has linked the alleged plot to President Reagan's remarks about the country and has long charged that the U.S. was working on a strategy of destabilisation, also directed against Nicaragua.

The Bishop regime came to power following the 1979 armed overthrow of eccentric right-winger Eric Gairy and has earned the ire of Washington by developing ties with socialist countries. St Georges has launched an intensive diplomatic campaign to gain support in its quarrel with the U.S.

SEAGA REACTS TO TRINIDAD, BARBADOS CRITICISMS

FL240250 Kingston Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 24 Mar 83

[Text] Prime Minister Seaga has said that a team of government officials and a team from the private sector will go to Trinidad and Barbados early next week to discuss with their counterparts specific proposals to ease the problems caused by the parallel market and other economic measures.

The prime minister and the PSOJ [Private Sector Organization of Jamaica] today discussed draft initiatives and agreed that the private sector leadership would report in time for the topics to be dealt with by the Cabinet on Monday. The JMA [Jamaica Manufacturers Association] will be meeting tomorrow and the JEA [Jamaica Exporters Association] on Friday.

In the Jamaica house release, it was stated that the matter will be dealt with by the CARICOM Multilateral Clearing Facility [CMCF] at the meeting on April 12. This was agreed on at the summit of Western Hemisphere Commonwealth countries in St Lucia, where it was decided that the CMCF would have a special first meeting on the 28th of February. This meeting was held and a number of alternative proposals that were considered were to have been given detailed attention in time for the April 12th meeting.

The release emphasized that Jamaica has never refused to meet to discuss the problem with its CARICOM partners and that Jamaica was preparing to deal with the proposals of the CMCF's first meeting for the April 12th meeting, which Mr Seaga says all parties representing the CARICOM countries had agreed would be the time to deal with these issues.

Mr Seaga repeated that it should be understood that the actions taken by the Government of Jamaica to formalize the parallel market is not contrary to the articles of the CARICOM Agreement and it was within rights to (?respond) to foreign exchange policy.

He believes that the proposals which will be taken to the governments and the private sectors of Trinidad and Barbados by the Jamaican teams next week will be proof of Jamaica's good faith in seeking an equitable solution.

EFFORTS TO SOLVE CARICOM TRADE PROBLEMS CONTINUE

FL311635 Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 26 Mar 83 pp 1, 20

[Excerpt] Efforts to settle the differences between Jamaica, Trinidad and Barbados over CARICOM trade, which have arisen as the result of Jamaica's introduction of its two-tiered currency exchange rate, continued yesterday.

Following the anhouncement on Thursday of Jamaica's decision to send two teams to Trinidad to iron out the problems in respect to trade between the two countries, it was reported in Trinidad yesterday that a top-level meeting of senior ministers from Jamaica, Trinidad and Barbados is to be held this weekend in a neutral territory.

According to the report, which was not confirmed here, Jamaica's minister of foreign trade, the Rt. Hon. Hugh Shearer, is to meet with his Trinidad and Barbados counterparts in Antigua, in a surprise move decided on yesterday.

At the same time, it was also reported from Port of Spain that the Trinidad Government, which had created a new situation by placing all CARICOM imports on its negative list, requiring them to secure licences, has taken the action a step further.

This latest action on the part of Trinidad, the report said, was to announce that CARICOM imports, although put on the negative list, would be frequently granted licences -- except for those from Jamaica.

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

GOVERNMENT TO ATTEND CARICOM SCIENCE MEETING

FL041700 Bridgetown CANA in English 1509 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, April 4, CANA -- Trinidad and Tobago will be officially represented at the first meeting of Caribbean Community (CARICOM) ministers responsible for science and technology to be held in Kingston, Jamaica, from tomorrow to Thursday, the government has said.

Heading the team is this country's Minister of Energy and Natural Resources Patrick Manning.

CHILE

EXILED LEADER ALLOWED TO RETURN TEMPORARILY

PA022032 Paris AFP in Spanish 1611 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Text] Santiago, 1 Apr (AFP) -- It was reported here today that the Chilean Government has authorized exiled Christian Democratic Party leader Andres Zaldivar to temporarily return to Chile. Zaldivar requested the authorization in order to visit his elderly father, who is in serious condition.

The newspaper LA TERCERA has reported that Zaldivar, president of the Christian Democratic World Union and former minister under the late President Eduardo Frei (1964-70), may arrive in Santiago between 11 and 17 April for a 5-day stay. According to the newspaper, even though the government granted the authorization for humanitarian reasons, the situation of the former president of the Chilean Christian Democratic Party remains unchanged.

It was recalled here that Zaldivar was not allowed to return to Chile in 1981 because, while being abroad, he harshly criticized Gen Augusto Pinochet's regime. Zaldivar's relatives neither confirmed nor denied the report.

FOREIGN MINISTER RETURNS FROM U.S., UK VISIT

PY311903 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 31 Mar 83

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Miguel Schweitzer has returned from the United States. The foreign minister made brief remarks to the press at the airport. He said that his visit to the United States and Great Britain was very positive.

ECUADOR

INDUSTRY, COMMERCE MINISTER SUBMITS RESIGNATION

PA041835 Paris AFP in Spanish 1804 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Quito, 4 Apr (AFP) -- Orlando Alcivar, Ecuadorean industries, Commerce and integration minister, has presented his resignation. President Osvaldo Hurtado will decide on the resignation when he returns from the United States next week. Alcivar was appointed minister on 15 August 1981. He was secretary general of the government at the time. Alcivar has said that he wants to resume his private law practice in Guayaquil.

PERU

LABOR MINISTER COMMENTS ON GROUP OF 77 MEETING

PY041959 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Excerpts] Before his departure for Buenos Aires where he will attend the meeting of the Group of 77, Labor Minister Alfonso Grados Bertorini said that formulas must be sought to over come inflation. He added that it is impossible to overcome an international inflation process and even less an inflation at the domestic level without establishing common economic and political action programs. He said: "it is not possible for people to continue thinking that the recovery of the international economy depends solely on the unilateral decision of certain developed countries:"